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FEB 27 2007

Serial No. 09/825,973
OKI.227

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.312 dated February 27, 2007

REMARKS

Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 31 and 33 have been canceled.

In accordance with Manual of Patent Examining Procedure section 714.16, after the Notice of Allowance has been mailed, the Examiner has authority to enter amendments submitted after Notice of Allowance of an application which embody merely...the cancellation of claims from the application, without forwarding to the Supervisor Patent Examiner for approval.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request cancellation of the above noted claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 31 and 33 without withdrawing the present application from issue. Accordingly, the present application should be passed to issue as including allowed claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34.

During a telephone conversation on February 27, 2007, Supervisor Matthew Smith confirmed that this Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.312 would be entered.

Favorable consideration and entry of this amendment, without withdrawing the present application from issue, are thus respectfully requested.

In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, please contact Andrew J. Telesz, Jr. (Reg. No. 33,581) at (571) 283-0720 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss these matters.

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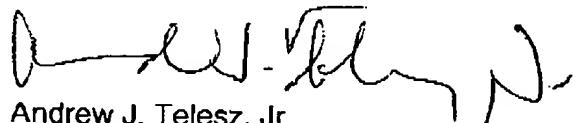
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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment for any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0238.

Respectfully submitted,

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